

## **Weekly Police Beat for the week ending June 29, 2018**

### **Car Thief Identified, Charged**

*DC man, 18, is currently being held in jail*

In the early morning hours of Monday, April 9, 2018, a brand new 2018 Audi Q7 was stolen from the owner's driveway on Primrose Street between Brookville Road and Oxford Street. The key had been left inside the vehicle.

Less than a week later, on Sunday, 4/15/18, DC Police (MPD) spotted the stolen Audi still displaying the owner's license plates. The car, occupied by three males, fled when police tried to stop it. The suspects abandoned the car in the 400 block of O Street Southwest and ran. They were able to make their getaway before pursuing MPD officers caught up to the car. MPD towed the car to a storage lot and notified Village Police. The SUV had been involved in a collision and had sustained significant damage.

Village police have a partnership with detectives from Montgomery County's Centralized Auto Theft Team (CATT), and they began to do a follow-up investigation of the case. Coincidentally, Detective John Eggener from CATT had identified a suspect involved in an unrelated car theft. Det. Eggener obtained a search warrant for the suspect's cell phone to further his investigation. During the search of the phone, Det. Eggener stumbled upon brag photos and videos of the suspect driving the stolen Audi Q7 that was taken on April 9 in the Village. The images contained the victim's stolen license plate, also. (As an aside, the police truly appreciate it when criminals produce such solid evidence for the prosecution).

Det. Eggener obtained and served an arrest warrant charging 18 year-old Amir Darnell-Curtis Golden of Washington, DC with felony theft, and felony motor vehicle theft. He is currently in jail awaiting trial.

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### **Valuable Bicycle Stolen from Open Garage**

*It was taken sometime between Wednesday, June 20 and Friday, June 22*

On Sunday, June 24, a resident from the westernmost block of Grafton (between Kirkside and Wisconsin) noticed that his men's black Trek FX3 hybrid bicycle was stolen from his open garage which is attached to the residence. The resident reported that his son often leaves the garage door open during daytime hours when the boy plays outside, and the garage had been left open during the day on June 20, 21 and 22. The bicycle, valued at \$900, was likely taken during the day when the door was open.

Residents are urged to lock up their bicycles—preferably indoors—whenever they are not being ridden, and to register their bicycles with the Village police department so that the serial number will be in our database. At a minimum, residents should record their serial numbers and maintain them in a safe location.

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## **Tools stolen from three contractors' trucks**

*One was unlocked; locks were punched out on two others*

At about 12:30 in the afternoon on Thursday, June 28, a construction worker on the unit block of Hesketh Street saw two black males—one wearing a hard hat and the other wearing a bright, reflective vest—walking along Hesketh and pulling on the door handles of parked construction trucks. The worker yelled at the pair, and they immediately fled on foot heading west on Hesketh. Village officers immediately responded and searched the Village and surrounding areas for the men, but they were not located.

While officers were investigating the Hesketh Street incident, a construction worker in the 5600 block of Grove Street flagged an officer down to report that he had just discovered that a lock on one of the doors to his truck was punched inward by force, and a thief had stolen some of his tools. He did not witness the crime or see any suspects.

A short time after the Grove Street theft was reported, a contractor who was doing a job at All Saints Church discovered that someone had defeated a lock on his truck while the truck was parked on Grafton Street adjacent to the church. Some tools were stolen from his truck, as well.

Officers believe that the thieves must have been in a car or truck of some kind as they committed their crimes; some of the stolen tools are heavy and cumbersome, and a vehicle would be required to transport them.

Residents are asked to share this information with their contractors so that they can keep an eye out for any suspicious persons in the area of their vehicles.

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## **Latent Fingerprints Nab Two Thieves**

*Village officer credited with finding fingerprints, obtaining arrest warrants*

In the early morning hours of Thursday, January 25, 2018, several residents reported that someone had entered their unlocked cars overnight. A total of seven cars were entered, and some items were stolen.

Village officer James Timmerman responded to investigate the crimes. He painstakingly dusted for signs of latent fingerprints on the cars. He lifted several latent prints and he submitted them to the regional fingerprint database for analysis.

After several weeks, the lab returned 'hits' on two known thieves. Armed with that evidence, Officer Timmerman obtained arrest warrants charging two adult men with several counts of theft and conspiracy. One of the thieves lives in Prince George's County and the other lives in Washington, DC. The men are currently wanted; we will provide further details about them after they are arrested.

Nice work, Officer Timmerman!